

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

I prefer discussing a novel to a play or a poem because a novel contains more details as Shaw states 'Novel is a lengthy fictitious prose narrative portraying characters and presenting an organized series of events and settings.'(Shaw, 1972: 257).

Wally Lamb, whose surroundings were influenced mostly by girls, was given the inspiration and ability to observe the opposite gender, about their characteristics, feelings, points of view and response to lead their lives. He writes because he wishes to understand the world better along with its pain. I believe that this novelist is capable of writing about women's life, which makes this novel worth reading and analysing.

In this thesis, I propose to focus on the protagonist, Dolores Price, in Wally Lamb's She's Come Undone. The novelist has clearly shown the portrayal of the protagonist. He has presented Dolores Price as an amusing character that she was once a fragile and guilty-ridden girl but now she is able to survive by

learning how to face some problems in the outside world and her experiences that allow her to become a mature person.

I notice that this character is presented in realistically. It appears that the protagonist is portrayed as a dynamic character. I also discover that Wally Lamb presents the portrayals of the protagonist in order to give the readers lesson to think and learn about the influence for a child who is dealing with issues such as a victim of social abuse and rape, her parents who get divorce, her overweight and mental disorder. Dolores is amusing while descending into the depth of her depression. For that reason, I have decided to discuss Wally Lamb's unforgettable portrayal of the protagonist.

Moreover, by analysing this literary work, I hope to discover more of how Wally Lamb portrays the protagonist in the novel as to show the purpose of the author in portraying the Dolores. It is hoped to give insights to other readers as a positive reference and further understanding of this book, its context, furthermore, of what lesson or moral the author is trying to convey by presenting the character in such manner.

In addition, I use characterization techniques in order to know how the author portrays the character. The techniques that are used are according the theory of Murphy; they are speech, reaction, and thought.

1.2 Statement of the problem

In analysing the protagonist in Wally Lamb's novel, the problems that I would like to analyse are:

1. How does the author portray the protagonist?
2. What characterization techniques are used to portray the protagonist?
3. What is the author's purpose in presenting such a character?

1.3 Purpose of the study

1. To show how the author portrays the protagonist
2. To show how characterization techniques are used to portray the protagonist
3. To show the purpose of the author in presenting the character.

1.4 Method of research

In this thesis, I use the library research. First, I read She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb as a primary text. Next, I explore further through other reference books and Internet sites to obtain more relevant information about the topic. Finally, from the information obtained, I analyse the primary text and conclude the analysis.

1.5 Organization of the thesis

The thesis consists of three chapters starting with the Introduction. In the Introduction, I will state the Background of the Study, the Statement of the Problem, the Purpose of the Study, the Method of Research and the Organization of the Thesis. In Chapter Two, I will present an analysis of the portrayal of the protagonist in the novel She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb. Chapter Three will cover the Conclusion of the analysis of the literary work. The thesis ends with the Bibliography, the Appendices which consists of the Synopsis of She's Come Undone and Biography of Wally Lamb.